

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 OMB-01 RSR-01 /106 W

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R 021005Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 95

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 7714

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EC IT

SUBJECT: US/EUROPEAN RELATIONS - ITALIAN VIEWS

REFS: A. ROME 7386; B. ROME 7597

1. THE EUROPEAN RESPONSE TO THE KISSINGER PROPOSAL FOR A
DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES GREATLY INTERESTS ITALIAN POLICY
MAKERS. FOLLOWING CONVERSATIONS REPORTED REFTELS WE TALKED
TO PRIME MINISTER RUMOR'S DIPLOMATIC ADVISER PETRIGNANI.
HE ELABORATED ON MORO'S CONCERNS REFLECTED IN PARAGRAPH 4
OF REF A THAT WE NOT PUSH TOO QUICKLY FOR A EUROPEAN RESPONSE.

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2. PETRIGNANI STATED THAT THE ITALIANS ARE MOST ANXIOUS THAT

THE EUROPEAN REPLY JELL QUICKLY. HOWEVER, IF THE UNITED STATES INSISTS ON A EUROPEAN REPLY BY SEPTEMBER 15, HE BELIEVES THIS WILL PLAY INTO THE HANDS OF THE FRENCH WHO WOULD PREFER TO DELAY ANY DECLARATION TO THE SECOND HALF OF 1974 WHEN FRANCE WILL BE IN THE CHAIR OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.

3. AS DUCCI INDICATED LAST WEEK THE ITALIANS EXPECT THAT THE EC NINE MINISTERS MEETING SEPTEMBER 10 - 11 WILL MERELY GIVE FURTHER GUIDANCE TO THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS WHO COULD PROBABLY PULL TOGETHER A REASONABLE EUROPEAN DRAFT BY APPROXIMATELY SEPTEMBER 24. AT THIS POINT THE EUROPEANS PRESUMABLY WOULD BE PREPARED TO TALK TO THE AMERICANS.

4. IT IS NOT CLEAR HOW THIS DISCUSSION WITH THE UNITED STATES WILL OCCUR. THE ITALIANS UNDERSTAND THAT KISSINGER IS THINKING OF MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF EITHER OF THE NINE OR THE NAC. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WOULD BE TO DEVELOP AN AGREED PAPER IN PREPARATION FOR A PRESIDENTIAL VISIT. THE PROBLEM OF A SINGLE DECLARATION OR SIMULTANEOUS COMMUNIQUE HAS NOT BEEN RESOLVED. IT IS POSSIBLE AS PETRIGNANI INDICATED THAT SINCE THE NINE ARE MEMBERS OF NATO EXCEPT IRELAND, A PAPER PRODUCED BY THE NINE COULD BE EXPANDED BY THE NAC THUS PROVIDING A SINGLE DOCUMENT WHICH WOULD COVER ALL THE MAJOR ASPECTS OF TRANSATLANTIC RELATIONSHIPS. THE PROBLEM IS TO KEEP UP MOMENTUM WHILE BRINGING THE FRENCH ALONG. THIS EFFORT MAY TAKE US INTO OCTOBER BEFOR A DEFINITIVE AGREED DRAFT COULD BE READY FOR HIGHEST LEVEL CONSIDERATION.

5. WE SENSE IN THIS ITALIAN PREOCCUPATION WITH TIMING A FEAR THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL FORCE THE PACE BY INSISTING ON ACTION BY MID-SEPTEMBER. THEY THINK THE JOB CAN BE DONE IF WE ARE FLEXIBLE ON TIMING. ALSO, ITALIANS SEEM TO BE WORKING ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO EUROPE WILL OCCUR DURING THE FIRST HALF OF NOVEMBER. VOLPE

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